

Trowbridge Urban District Council



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR

1962





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TROWBRIDGE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND CHIEF
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1962

MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report for the year 1962. I wish to record my thanks to the staff of the Public Health Department for their work and co-operation.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN L. DAVIES

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area	...	...	...	...	...	2,250 acres
Population	...	...	...	...	...	16,020
Rateable Value (at 1st April, 1962)...	...	...	...	...	...	£243,076
Sum represented by Penny Rate (year 1962-63)...	...	...	...	...	...	£1,041.3.6
Total number of houses in Urban District (31.12.62)	...	...	...	...	...	5,421

VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>England and Wales 1962</u>	<u>Trowbridge 1902</u>
LIVE BIRTHS -						
Legitimate	130	130	260	245		
Illegitimate	6	13	19	7		
TOTAL	136	143	279	252		251
LIVE BIRTH RATE - per 1,000 population			17.4	16.0	18.0	21.8
ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS- of total live births			6.81%	2.78%		
CORRECTED BIRTH RATE per 1,000 population (comparability factor 1.0)			17.4	16.0		
STILL BIRTHS -						
Legitimate	1	4	5	5		
Illegitimate	1	-	1	1		
TOTAL	2	4	6	6		
STILL BIRTH RATE- per 1,000 live and still births			21.05	23.26	18.1	
TOTAL LIVE- AND STILL BIRTHS	138	147	285	258		
TOTAL DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES	88	92	180	190		187
DEATH RATE per 1,000 population All causes			11.2	12.6		16.3
CORRECTED DEATH RATE- per 1,000 population (Comparability factor 1.0)			11.2	12.6	11.9	
INFANTS DEATHS (under 1 year)						
Legitimate	3	-	3	3		
Illegitimate	-	-	-	-		
TOTAL	3	-	3	3		

	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>England and Wales 1962</u>	<u>Trowbridge 1902</u>
INFANT MORTALITY RATE						
per 1,000 live births:						
Total			10.8	11.9	21.7	100.3
Legitimate			11.5	12.2		
Illegitimate			Nil	Nil		
NEO-NATAL DEATHS						
(under 4 weeks)						
Legitimate	3	-	3	1		
Illegitimate	-	-	-	-		
<hr/>						
TOTAL	3	-	3	1		
<hr/>						
NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE						
per 1,000 live births						
			10.8	3.97	15.1	
EARLY NEO-NATAL DEATHS						
(under 1 week)						
Legitimate	3	-	3	1		
Illegitimate	-	-	-	-		
<hr/>						
	3	-	3	1		
<hr/>						
EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE						
per 1,000 live births						
			10.8	3.97		
PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE						
(still births and deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live and still births)						
			31.6	27.1	30.8	
MATERNAL DEATHS						
(including abortion)						
			Nil	Nil		
MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE						
per 1,000 live and still births						
			Nil	Nil		

The figures for Trowbridge Urban District for the years 1962, 1961 and where available for 1902 are given in the above tables together with some corresponding rates for England and Wales in 1962.

POPULATION The population has increased from 11,474 persons in 1902 to 16,020 in 1962.

INFANT MORTALITY RATE (Deaths in the first year of life per 1,000 live births). This figure 10.8 is about half the National average of 21.7. The Infant Mortality Rate in Trowbridge in 1902 was 100.3 - nearly 10 times as great as in 1962. In 1875 the figure was 167.5 when nearly 1 in 3 of all deaths was in infants under 1 year of age.

These figures give some indication of the immense improvement which has taken place in the care of mothers and infants in the past 60 years.

ANALYSIS OF DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES

G R O U P		Population 16,020			1 9 6 1 T.	Population 11,474
		<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>T.</u>	<u>T.</u>	<u>1902</u>
1	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	-	-	-	-	12
2	Other Forms of Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	11
3	Syphilitic Diseases	-	-	-	-	
4	Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	3
5	Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	8
6	Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-	-	
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	
8	Measles	-	-	-	-	5
9	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	-	-	-	-	2
10	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	4	1	5	5	13
11	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	8	-	8	3	
12	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	2	2	3	
13	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	1	1	1	
14	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	8	9	17	9	
15	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	1	2	3	
16	Diabetes	-	-	-	5	
17	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	12	21	33	23	
18	Coronary Disease, Angina	13	11	24	35	
19	Hypertension with Heart Disease	-	1	1	4	
20	Other Heart Disease	12	25	37	35	22
21	Other Circulatory Disease	3	4	7	13	
22	Influenza	-	2	2	-	2
23	Pneumonia	3	1	4	18	13
24	Bronchitis	6	2	8	13	24
25	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	2	-	2	7	3
26	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	-	1	1	
27	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	-	-	-	2	2
28	Nephrosis and Nephrosis	1	-	1	2	
29	Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	-	2	-	
30	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	-	-	-	-	
31	Congenital Malformations	-	1	1	-	1
32	Other Defined and Ill Defined Diseases	7	6	13	9	62
33	Motor Vehicle Accidents	-	-	-	1	
34	All Other Accidents	3	2	5	3	3
35	Suicide	2	2	4	3	1
36	Homicide and Operations of War	-	-	-	-	
TOTALS		88	92	180	198	187

ANALYSIS OF DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES

The figures for 1962 and 1961 are given and also those for 1902 for purpose of comparison.

Infectious Diseases.

Although the figures are not strictly comparable owing to changes in classification it will be noted that in groups 1 - 9 (Infectious Diseases) there were no deaths in 1962 whereas 60 years ago at least 20% and probably more than 30% (since many deaths were unclassified) of all deaths in the town were due to infectious diseases.

This vast reduction in the deaths from infectious diseases is due to many factors. Improved housing, sanitary conditions, safer water and milk supplies, immunisation and vaccination and better nutrition associated with increasing prosperity and living standards have all played a part, as well as advances in treatment and medical care.

Cancer.

It will be seen that in 1962 a total of 35 people died of malignant disease which was the cause of just under 1 in 5 of all deaths, which is about the National average.

The one form of cancer which increased greatly in the past 30 years is lung cancer.

Of total male deaths from all causes in Trowbridge in 1962 exactly 1 in 11 was due to lung cancer and in England and Wales the figure was about 1 in 14. Medical evidence from many different sources indicates that there is an association between cigarette smoking and lung cancer, the risk of contracting the disease being proportional to the number of cigarettes smoked. Heavy cigarette smokers are 40 times more likely to contract Lung Cancer than non-smokers. These figures speak for themselves.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

I STAFF.

1. Part-time Medical Officer: Dr.J.L.Davies, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., who acts for Trowbridge U.D.C., Bradford on Avon U.D.C., and is also an Assistant County Medical Officer.
2. Chief Public Health Inspector: Donald S.Smith, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.[^] (Also acts as Authorised Officer under (1) Petroleum (Regulation) Acts, 1928 and 1936, (2) Pet Animals Act, 1951, (3) Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Regulations, 1953, and (4) Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957.

Deputy Public Health Inspector: H.Phillips, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspector: A.G.Garnett, M.A.P.H.I.

3. Mrs.N.M.Hillyer, a clerk-typist whose time is divided between the Trowbridge Public Health Department and the other authority for which the Medical Officer acts.
4. Rodent Operator: T.Richards.

II. (a) Laboratory Facilities. (1) Public Health Laboratory, Salisbury (2) Public Health Laboratory, Bath (3) Waterfall and O'Brien, Bristol.

(b) Ambulance Facilities. The County Council's Ambulance Station for this area is at Hilpert Road, Trowbridge.

(c) Nursing in the Home. There are two district nurses and one midwife.

(d) Home Helps. The County Council Home Help service is well established and great assistance has been given in cases of illness and infirmity. It should be clearly understood that Home Helps are not intended, and should not be expected, to undertake any nursing - their duties are household ones only.

(e) Treatment Centres and Clinics. The County Council Clinic, The Halve, is used for all clinics. The Child Welfare Clinic is held every Tuesday and Thursday at 2 p.m.

Immunisation. A session is held on the fourth Thursday of every month.

Specialist Clinics are held on other occasions.

(f) Hospital Accommodation.

1. Trowbridge and District Hospital. This is a general hospital with a maternity department of thirteen beds.
2. Hospitals for Infectious Diseases. Owing to the steadily decreasing numbers of infectious cases requiring admission to isolation beds, the hospital once known as the Trowbridge and District Isolation Hospital is now, under its modern name of St.John's Hospital, Trowbridge, used almost entirely as a Hospital for older patients - both men and women.

Claverton Hospital, Bath, is the main hospital for infectious diseases for a wide area, and all serious ones, Poliomyelitis for example, are admitted directly there.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS 1948 AND 1951.

No action was taken under this Act in 1962.

The County Council's Health Visiting Staff now have as a larger part of their work the supervision of older persons and the providing of Home Helps for those needing such aid. This illustrates very clearly the altered needs of the ageing population.

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

Samples of water are taken regularly by this Department and sent to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. All samples taken during 1962 were satisfactory. The following report on a sample taken the 12th December, 1962 is appended.

Plate Count. Yeastreagar 24 hours 37° C aerobically
- NIL per ml.
Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days,
37° C - NIL per 100 ml.
Probable number of Bact. coli (Type 1) - NIL per 100 ml.

Number of Dwelling-houses Supplied.

All the houses in the Urban District take their water supply from the West Wilts Water Board; approximately 17 are supplied by standpipes, the remainder direct.

I am indebted to the Surveyor, Mr.G.S.Day, for the information under the next three headings.

PUBLIC CLEANING.

The refuse collection and disposal service continued virtually unchanged throughout the year, with only minor adjustments to provide for the normal increase in the number of properties served.

A Drott Skid-shovel was purchased in April to work the controlled tip in place of the earlier machine which was sold.

A survey was made of possible sites for controlled tipping with a view to providing a further site for use when the Wyke Tip is filled. It was decided to negotiate for land adjacent to the sewage works for this purpose.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.

A scheme was submitted by the Consulting Engineers for the first phase of the reconstruction of the main sewage pumping station, estimated at £60,000. This was approved by the Council and, subject to the approval of the Ministry, recommended to proceed to the tendering stage.

An outline scheme and report also was submitted later in the year for the reorganisation of the sewage disposal works and it was agreed that this be submitted to the Ministry.

Samples of effluent from the existing works continued to be below the standard required for a satisfactory discharge. Experiments were made, in conjunction with the River Board's Officers, to raise the oxygen content of the effluent by aeration and some success was achieved.

SEWERAGE.

An Agreement was arranged with the Warminster and Westbury Rural District Council for the reception of sewage from certain parishes and negotiations proceeded with the Bradford and Melksham Rural District Council with regard to sewage from an area to the North of the urban district.

Some minor improvements on existing sewers were made and a new section of surface water sewer laid in Victoria Road. Extensions of soil sewers on building estates continued.

Cleansing of sewers carried out included the Islington sewer and a section of the southern interceptor sewer between Whiterow Bridge and St. John's Crescent.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS.

Ten samples were taken from the open-air bathing pool during the year. One sample was reported as "moderate degree of pollution with non-faecal type coliform organisms". The other nine samples were reported as "no evidence of pollution".

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN 1962.

Age Group	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Acute Paralytic	Poliomyelitis Non-Paralytic	Measles	Dysentery
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 Year	-	-	-	-	-	1
1 "	-	-	-	-	-	2
2 Years	-	-	-	-	1	2
3 "	-	-	-	-	1	3
4 "	-	-	-	-	1	1
5 - 9 "	-	-	-	-	1	3
10 - 14 "	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24 "	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 and over	-	-	-	-	-	8
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	12
TOTALS	1	1	1	1	3	17
					5	26
Age Group	Acute Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Food Poisoning	Tuberculosis Respiratory	Other	Puerperal Pyrexia
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14 Years	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24 "	-	-	-	-	-	2
25 - 44 "	-	-	-	-	1	2
45 - 64 "	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	1	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	-	-	-	-	2	4

The town was remarkably free from infectious diseases during the year. In March there was a mild outbreak of Sonne Dysentery which rapidly declined.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION.

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for the following figures for immunisations and vaccinations carried out in Trowbridge during the year.

IMMUNISATION AND SMALLPOX VACCINATION STATISTICS, 1962.								
Year of Birth		1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1953	1948
							-57	-52
Primary imms. completed during 1962	Diph.	73	155	16	8	4	82	20
	Wh/c.	73	155	15	3	2	1	-
	Tet.	73	155	14	3	3	8	2
Reinf.inject- ions admin- istered during 1962	Diph.	-	35	72	15	11	146	10
	Wh/c.	-	34	55	11	7	55	-
	Tet.	-	35	73	17	8	143	13
Age Group	Under 1	1	2 - 4	5 - 14	15 or over			
Vaccinations	265	40	79	474	708			
Re-vaccinations	-	-	17	296	1028			

COMPLETED POLIOMYELITIS IMMUNISATIONS DURING 1962.

Persons Born	2nd injection	3rd injection	4th injection	3rd oral after 2 injections	4th oral
1943 - 1961	86	238	8	159	275
1933 - 1942	13	73	-	26	-
Babies born in 1962	1	1	-	18	-
Others	16	175	-	58	1
TOTALS	116	487	8	261	276

HOUSING

	Houses			Flats (Conversions)		Flats (2-Storey)		Flats (3-Storey)		Pre-fab. Bungalows		Old People's Group Bungalows		Group Dwelling		Shops and Flats		TOTAL
BEDROOMS:	2	3	4	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	1	2	B/S	1/B	2/B	2		
Dwellings occupied at 1.1.62	32	1051	75	1	1	2	22	129	57	42	84	5	13	1	6		1,521	
Completed and occ. during 1962	-	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-		42	
Vacated and not re-let	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		2	
Dwellings occupied at 31.12.62	32	1087	75	-	-	2	22	129	57	42	90	5	13	1	6		1,561	

- (a) New properties which became available for letting during 1962
- (b) Properties which became available for re-letting during 1962
- (c) Families re-housed:-

General applications

Families from Condemned, Unfit Houses, etc.

Transfers from other properties of the Council

(Numbers of persons shown in brackets)

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

To the Chairman and Members of the Trowbridge Urban District Council.

MRS. CANNELL AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my Report for the year 1962.

The inspection of meat and other foods and housing work continued to form an important part of the work of the Department. Reference is made in the Housing section of this Report to the completion of a survey of some 250 of the older houses in the District and the drawing up of a programme of inspections under the Housing Acts for the years 1963-65. The publicising of this programme has enabled the Department to be more specific in advising owners, tenants and prospective purchasers regarding the future of older properties.

Comment is also made on the disappointing response again experienced to the Council's publicity of the grants available for house improvement.

Once again I record my thanks to the Council, the Medical Officer and the staff of the Public Health Department for their co-operation and support.

Yours obediently,

DONALD S. SMITH

Chief Public Health Inspector.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES.

1. SLAUGHTERING.

An application, supported by the Council, from a local food factory for deferment of the introduction of the whole of the Construction Regulations relating to slaughterhouses in the District was granted by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in order to allow completion of the firm's new slaughterhouse. The "appointed day" for the Regulations was deferred until 1st January, 1964.

Close liaison was maintained between the firm concerned and the Department in the design of their new slaughterhouse, particularly in regard to the arrangements for proper meat inspection.

Once again, an increase was recorded in the number of animals slaughtered in the District. 88,105 animals were killed, an increase of over 7% on the figures for 1961.

2. SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958.

Twenty slaughtermen were licensed during the year, of whom thirteen were confined to the slaughter of pigs by reason of their employment at the two bacon factories.

3. INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Despite the increased throughput of animals at the slaughterhouses, the number of whole carcasses condemned as unfit for human consumption was less than in 1961. There was also a small reduction in the total weight of meat and other foods condemned. Meat inspection details are tabulated on the following page. The increased incidence of disease, other than tuberculosis, noted in pigs during 1961 was again in evidence and a further slightly increased incidence of tuberculosis in pigs was found. Eight cases of generalised tuberculosis were detected in pigs, compared with one case during 1961. Information was passed to the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food whenever an abnormal incidence of tuberculosis was detected in a particular consignment.

Confirmation was received, in the form of draft regulations, of the Ministry's intention to introduce compulsory meat inspection by qualified officers at all slaughterhouses and the probable effect of these proposals was under consideration at the end of the year.

Assistance was given to the Pig Industry Development Authority by recording the location and incidence of abscesses found in pig carcasses.

Complaints received and investigated regarding foodstuffs included the following:-

Nail in dried fruit.
Metal particle in canned steak and kidney pie.
Piece of wire in tea-cake.
Dirt in loaf of bread (two complaints).
Pork pies affected with mould (three complaints).

Warnings were issued to the traders concerned.

The weight of meat and other foods condemned as unfit for human consumption during the year were as follows:-

		<u>Tons.</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>Qrs.</u>	<u>Lbs.</u>
BEEF	...	-	17	3	17
MUTTON	...	-	-	1	8
VEAL	...	1	4	1	19
PORK	...	53	15	2	10
OTHER FOODS	..	-	8	1	17
		56	6	2	15

4. DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

There was no change in the methods of disposal of unfit meat and other foods.

MEAT INSPECTION AT BACON FACTORIES AND SLAUGHTERHOUSES, 1962.

	<u>Cattle</u> <u>Excluding Cows</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u> <u>and lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
Number Killed	392	-	10,346	391	76,976
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI					
Whole Carcasses condemned	-	-	52	-	298
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	68	-	100	12	1,313
Percentage of the number killed affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	17.35%	-	1.47%	3.07%	2.09%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY					
Whole Carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	8
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	1,734
Percentage of the number killed affected with tuberculosis	0.26%	-	-	-	2.26%
CYSTICERCOSIS					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	4	-	-	1	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	2	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

5. THE DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1958.

No plants were licensed during the year.

6. THE FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960.

Close attention continued to be given to the manufacture, storage, transport and sale of food, as the inspections tabulated at the end of this Report indicate. In thirty-six instances - including public houses, clubs, a food factory, a factory canteen and retail shops - contraventions of the Regulations were remedied by informal action. This is an indication of the need for continued surveillance of such premises if the generally improved standards of recent years are to be maintained. No statutory action was taken during the year.

The storage of refuse at the central shops in the town often gives rise to difficulties owing to the restricted space available at the rear and wherever possible the Surveyor assists in such cases by providing collection facilities.

At the request of the County Medical Officer, a talk on food hygiene, etc. (including a film) was given to the school meals staff employed in the district.

7. FOOD PREMISES.

The number of food premises in the district by type of business was as follows:-

Grocers, Greengrocers, Fruiterers, Confectioners ...	83
Cafes and Snack Bars ...	8
Fishmongers ...	6
Butchers ...	17
Bakers ...	6
Fish and Chip Saloons ...	6
Bacon Factories ...	2
Other Food Factories ...	8
Canteens, Kitchens, etc. ...	32
Food Warehouses ...	2
Breweries ...	1
Brewery Maltings ...	1
Beer Bottling ...	1
Wine and Spirit Bottling ...	1
Mineral Water Factories ...	1
Public Houses ...	26
Clubs ...	8
	<hr/>
	209
	<hr/>

8. REGISTERED FOOD PREMISES.

Number of premises registered under Sections 16 and 18, Food and Drugs Act, 1955:-

(i) (a) For the Sale of Ice-Cream ...	56
(b) For the Manufacture and Sale of Ice-Cream	3

- (ii) For the preparation or manufacture of Sausages
or Potted, Pressed, Pickled or Preserved Food
Intended for Sale 13

Two of the premises registered for ice-cream manufacture and ten premises registered for the sale of ice-cream were not used for those purposes during the year.

9. MILK AND DAIRIES (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1959.

- (i) Number of registered dairies (not being dairy farms) 4
(ii) Number of registered distributors of milk ... 14

Of the registered distributors of milk four were shopkeepers retailing small quantities of bottled or cartoned milk.

10. MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS.

Under a delegation agreement, certain functions of the Wiltshire County Council under the Regulations are carried out by the Urban District Council. Fifty-four samples of designated milk were taken, as follows:-

Pasteurised milk	...	17
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised milk		25
Pasteurised (Channel Islands) milk		12
		<hr/>
TOTAL		54

All these samples conformed to the standards prescribed in the Regulations.

11. ICE-CREAM SAMPLING.

Thirty-six samples of ice-cream were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory during the year. Of these, thirty-four were reported as Provisional Grade I and two as Provisional Grade II. These are satisfactory bacteriological standards.

HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

UNFIT HOUSES.

Early in the year, a local hearing by an Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government was held in connection with an objection by an owner of three properties included in The Prospect Place (No.2) and The Thomas Street Clearance Areas Compulsory Purchase Order, 1960. The properties were used as stores, workroom and canteen for an adjoining laundry. The Inspector visited all the properties in the Order which was subsequently confirmed by the Minister on 9th May, 1962. The Order comprised thirty-three dwelling-houses within the Clearance Areas and five dwelling-houses and five other parcels of land outside the Clearance Areas.

The Dursley Road Clearance Area Compulsory Purchase Order,

comprising eight dwelling-houses, was made by the Council and confirmed by the Minister on 22nd November, 1962.

A clearance area comprising numbers 7-15, St.Thomas's Passage was declared in November but further action in regard to these houses had not been determined by the end of the year.

A small number of individual unfit houses were dealt with by demolition or were closed. One unfit house, previously purchased by the Council, was repaired and improved and then sold by auction.

The preliminary survey, begun in 1961, of the older houses in the town was completed early in the year. Some 250 houses were surveyed and as a result the following programme of inspections under the Housing Acts was agreed by the Council for the period ending in 1965:-

For Detailed Inspection and
Formal Report

For Preliminary Survey and
Informal Report

1963

Mortimer Street premises both sides of the road.

Dursley Road (Nos.1,3,5,8,10,12 & 18).

New Road (Nos.5,6,8-13,25-30,40, 41,47-55, 59 & 61-65).

Islington (Nos.47 & 48 - owned by Council.)

Charlotte Street (Nos.1-22).

Cross Street (Nos.1 - 9).

Timbrell Street (Nos.22-47).

Prospect Place (Nos.7 - 11).

1964.

York Buildings (Nos.11-18).

Castle Street (Nos.14-20, 22-24, 42-61).

Hilperton Road (Nos.1-4, 7-12, 18-26, 52,53).

Yerbury Street (Nos.4-14).

Newtown (Nos.31 & 32),

Upper Alma Street (Nos.5 & 6)

Islington (No.52)

Islington Gardens (No.6)

The Halve (Nos.6-8,12-15, 17-29,30,31,31a,32,35 - 37).

St.Thomas's Passage(Nos.16-18)

Stainers Buildings, Castle Street.

Station Way.

Upper Alma Street.

Lower Alma Street.

1965.

Charlotte Street, Cross Street,)
Timbrell Street, Prospect Place,)
The Halve, Upper Alma Street,)
Lower Alma Street, Stainers)
Buildings, Station Way.)

Action to be taken if any, dependent on findings of preliminary surveys made in 1963 and 1964.

RENT ACT.

One application only was received and granted for a certificate of disrepair.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

The figures in section "F" below port ray a disappointing response to publicity given by the Council to the availability of grants for the improvement of houses.

Following a circular from the Ministry recommending improvement of houses on a street-by-street basis, a survey was made of an area of the town containing houses considered suitable for such improvement. The area was found to contain a high proportion of owner-occupiers who, for personal reasons, did not wish to use the grant scheme; a proportion of elderly people without the financial resources to improve their houses, even with the aid of a grant, and who in any case did not want the disturbance entailed in providing modern amenities; a number of houses already fully-occupied where the provision of a bathroom would have resulted in a reduction in the sleeping accommodation available in the house; and a small proportion of houses where some or all of the amenities had already been provided. A survey of another area was under consideration at the end of the year

Action under the Acts is tabulated below:-

A. - INSPECTIONS.

Housing inspections and re-inspections made under the Public Health and Housing Acts (including survey inspections) ... 682

B. - CLEARANCE AREAS (HOUSING ACT, 1957).

Clearance Areas declared	...	...	2
Number of houses in clearance areas declared		...	2
Number of unfit dwelling-houses demolished in clearance areas during the year	...	...	Nil
Number of persons displaced from houses unfit for human habitation	...	...	21 (9 families)
Number of houses included in Compulsory Purchase Orders under Section 43(2) of Housing Act, 1957		...	5
Number of persons displaced from such houses		...	5 (1 family)

C. - DEMOLITION AND CLOSING ORDERS (HOUSING ACT, 1957)

	<u>Number of houses</u>	<u>Number of persons displaced</u>
Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17	2	Nil
Houses closed as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17	11	22 (6 families)

D. - REPAIRS

Number of unfit houses made fit:-

(i) After informal action by local authority	...	28
(ii) After formal notice under		
(a) Public Health Acts	...	1
(b) Sections 9 and 16 of Housing Act, 1957	...	1
(iii) Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957	...	Nil

E. - CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR (RENT ACT, 1957)

Number of applications for certificates	...	1
Number of Certificates issued	...	1

F. - IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Discretionary -

Number of formal applications received	...	2
Number of formal applications approved	...	3
Number of formal applications refused	...	Nil
Number of schemes completed	...	1

Standard -

Number of formal applications received	...	16
Number of formal applications approved	...	13
Number of formal applications refused	...	Nil
Number of schemes completed	...	16

Amenities Provided by Standard Grants.

Baths in separate bathrooms	...	12
Wash-hand basins	...	12
Water Closets	...	9
Hot water supplies	...	16
Food-Stores	...	10

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

Twenty-one visits were necessary in connection with the occasional use of land for moveable dwellings. No sites were licensed in the District but a licenced site exists in an adjoining Rural District immediately outside the Urban District boundary.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Consent for a further two years was given under Section 107 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the operation of the by products plants at one of the food factories.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956.

A total of twenty-six observations and forty-seven inspections were made in connection with duties under the Clean Air Act.

As a result of informal action, equipment was installed in a furnace burning wood-waste with a view to reducing the emissions of dark smoke. Unfortunately, this did not prove entirely satisfactory.

Nuisances arising from burning-off cable at a scrap-yard and from a cinema chimney were dealt with. The cable-burning had been particularly troublesome because the scrap-yard was in close proximity to dwelling-houses. The cinema chimney, previously very low in relation to surrounding properties, was in the course of extension at the end of the year.

Smuts from chimneys of oil-fired boilers continued to be the subject of numerous complaints, particularly in the central area of the town. With the increase in oil-firing, this type of complaint has increased in recent years and in some cases the problem is difficult to solve.

Two cases were considered under section 10 of the Act and agreement was reached on the heights of the new chimneys before the plans submitted were passed. Such cases are considered by the Public Health Committee. An apparent anomaly arises in the administration of this section of the Act - whereas the height of a chimney of a relatively small factory installation may be controlled, the chimneys of large blocks of offices and shops are exempted from the provisions of the section.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960.

The main difficulty arose from a petition and complaints from residents adjoining a factory where night-work is carried out. Visits were made at night and as a result of informal representations, improvements were effected at the factory resulting in a reduction in the noise-level, particularly during the night.

AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956.

No action was taken under this Act during the year.

RODENT AND OTHER PEST CONTROL.

The rodent operator, Mr.T.Richards, continued to give his customary close attention to infestations by rats and mice and dealt also with wasp and cockroach problems on request. The soil sewers received two extensive poison treatments.

The Council has fourteen contracts for the regular treatment of commercial and factory premises and one hospital.

Details of work done are tabulated below:-

	Local Authority Properties	Dwelling Houses	Business Premises	Agricultural Properties	Total
Number of properties inspected by Rodent Operator	20	230	58	4	312
Number of properties found to be infested with rats or mice and treated by Rodent Operator	16	123	43	-	182
Total Treatments carried out including re-treatments	18	132	78	-	228

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

1. INSPECTIONS for purpose of provisions as to health

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	5	4	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	79	58	9	-
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	5	5	2	-
TOTAL	89	67	11	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness S.1	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding S.2	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature S.3	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation S.4	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors S.6	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences S.7					
(a) Insufficient	4	4	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	7	8	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	11	12	-	-	-

3. OUTWORK Sections 110 and 111

Nature of Work	Section 110				Section 111	
	No. of out- workers in August list required by S.110(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists unwholesome premises	No. of instances of work in	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing) Making, etc. apparel) cleaning and washing	4	-	-	-	-	-
Total	4	-	-	-	-	-

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

Premises registered for the purposes of the Act 1

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS 1928 & 1936.

Supervision was given to the installations at two new filling stations and one small private installation was closed.

In all, forty-two premises were licensed by the Council during the year for the storage of a total of 65,245 gallons of petroleum-spirit. In addition, the Home Secretary issued a licence for an installation at a laundry.

In addition to the visits tabulated at the end of this Report, annual visits are made by Fire Prevention Officers to all installations licensed by the Council and their advice and observations are appreciated.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

One licence only was issued under the Act to keep a pet shop. The advice of the R.S.P.C.A. is sought in connection with applications for licences.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' INSPECTIONS.

	<u>Primary</u> <u>Inspections.</u>	<u>Re-</u> <u>inspections.</u>
Housing - General ...	274	400
Disrepair Certificate	1	2
Improvement Grants		
- Discretionary	12	24
- Standard	44	120
Overcrowding	3	-
Other Visits, Housing Acts (including survey visits)	367	31
Moveable Dwellings ...	10	11
Dangerous Buildings ...	6	2
Keeping of Animals ...	6	4
Refuse Accommodation ...	2	1
Accumulations ...	16	12
Watercourses, etc. ...	13	5
Other Visits, Public		
Health Act ...	71	72
Drainage - Inspections	126	194
- Tests	34	9
Sanitary Accommodation	3	4
Sewage Disposal ...	8	-
Refuse Disposal ...	7	1
Milk & Dairies ...	10	-
Ice-Cream Premises ...	9	1
Licensed Premises ...	20	23
Food Preparing Premises	53	49
Other Food Premises ...	78	81
Markets, Stalls, Vans, Etc.	34	3
Slaughterhouses, Slaughtering, etc.	12	4
Meat Inspection - Slaughterhouses	526	12
- Bacon Factories	408	2
Carried forward	2153	1067

	<u>Primary</u> <u>Inspections</u>	<u>Re-</u> <u>inspections</u>
Brought Forward ...	2153	1067
General Food Inspection	66	4
Food Enquiries ...	11	9
Factories - with mechanical power	27	31
- without mechanical power	4	-
- other premises	2	3
- outworkers	3	-
Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act 1956	1	-
Shops Act ...	42	19
Clean Air Act-Observations	25	1
-Inspections	34	11
-Section 10	2	-
Noise Abatement ...	7	2
Petroleum-Acts-Inspections	42	46
-Tank Tests	14	14
-Other Visits	12	-
Rag Flock Acts ...	-	-
Pet Animals Act ...	1	-
Rodent Control ...	44	13
Other Pest Control ...	12	7
Premises Disinfested (excl. rodent)	2	2
Infectious Diseases ...	60	54
Premises Disinfested ...	1	-
Waste Foods Order-Inspections	-	-
Miscellaneous Visits ...	91	-
Interviews ...	115	-
Samples-Swimming Bath ...	10	-
-Water ...	6	-
-Milk-Bacteriological	54	-
-Ice-Cream ...	34	-
-Pathological ...	4	-
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TOTALS ...	2879	1283
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